

HOUSE BILL 1557

C3

0lr3608

By: **Delegate Bromwell**

Rules suspended

Introduced and read first time: March 15, 2010

Assigned to: Rules and Executive Nominations

A BILL ENTITLED

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Health Insurance – Coverage for Treatment of Spinal Muscular Atrophy**

3 FOR the purpose of requiring certain insurers, nonprofit health service plans, and
4 health maintenance organizations to provide coverage for certain recommended
5 hours of private duty nursing services for the treatment of spinal muscular
6 atrophy; providing that certain coverage may not be required to exceed a certain
7 number of hours per day; authorizing coverage for additional hours of private
8 duty nursing services; making the provisions of this Act applicable to health
9 maintenance organizations; providing for the application of this Act; and
10 generally relating to health insurance coverage for treatment of spinal muscular
11 atrophy.

12 BY adding to

13 Article – Insurance

14 Section 15–845

15 Annotated Code of Maryland

16 (2006 Replacement Volume and 2009 Supplement)

17 BY adding to

18 Article – Health – General

19 Section 19–706(cccc)

20 Annotated Code of Maryland

21 (2009 Replacement Volume)

22 SECTION 1. BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF
23 MARYLAND, That the Laws of Maryland read as follows:

24 **Article – Insurance**

25 **15–845.**

EXPLANATION: CAPITALS INDICATE MATTER ADDED TO EXISTING LAW.

[Brackets] indicate matter deleted from existing law.



1 **(A) THIS SECTION APPLIES TO:**

2 **(1) INSURERS AND NONPROFIT HEALTH SERVICE PLANS THAT**
3 **PROVIDE HOSPITAL, MEDICAL, OR SURGICAL BENEFITS TO INDIVIDUALS OR**
4 **GROUPS ON AN EXPENSE-INCURRED BASIS UNDER HEALTH INSURANCE**
5 **POLICIES THAT ARE ISSUED OR DELIVERED IN THE STATE; AND**

6 **(2) HEALTH MAINTENANCE ORGANIZATIONS THAT PROVIDE**
7 **HOSPITAL, MEDICAL, OR SURGICAL BENEFITS TO INDIVIDUALS OR GROUPS**
8 **UNDER CONTRACTS THAT ARE ISSUED OR DELIVERED IN THE STATE.**

9 **(B) AN ENTITY SUBJECT TO THIS SECTION SHALL PROVIDE COVERAGE**
10 **FOR PRIVATE DUTY NURSING SERVICES AS RECOMMENDED BY THE TREATING**
11 **PHYSICIAN OF THE INSURED OR ENROLLEE FOR THE TREATMENT OF SPINAL**
12 **MUSCULAR ATROPHY.**

13 **(C) THE COVERAGE REQUIRED UNDER SUBSECTION (B) OF THIS**
14 **SECTION MAY NOT BE REQUIRED TO EXCEED 12 HOURS PER DAY.**

15 **(D) NOTWITHSTANDING SUBSECTION (C) OF THIS SECTION, AN ENTITY**
16 **SUBJECT TO THIS SECTION MAY PROVIDE COVERAGE FOR ADDITIONAL HOURS**
17 **OF PRIVATE DUTY NURSING SERVICES FOR THE TREATMENT OF SPINAL**
18 **MUSCULAR ATROPHY.**

19 **Article – Health – General**

20 19–706.

21 **(CCCC) THE PROVISIONS OF § 15–845 OF THE INSURANCE ARTICLE**
22 **APPLY TO HEALTH MAINTENANCE ORGANIZATIONS.**

23 SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall apply to
24 all policies and contracts issued, delivered, or renewed in the State on or after October
25 1, 2010.

26 SECTION 3. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect
27 October 1, 2010.